



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
Office of the Director

DCCA News Release

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TEAM FROM KEAAU HIGH SCHOOL WINS STATE'S CONSUMER COMPETITION

HONOLULU – For the second year in a row, the "Screaching Weasels" from Keaau High School won the state title for the 4th annual LifeSmarts consumer education competition, which was held today at the State Capitol Auditorium.

The game-show style competition tested students on their knowledge of personal finance, health and safety, the environment, technology, and consumer rights and responsibilities.

"The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs is proud to sponsor the LifeSmarts competition for the fourth year in a row," said DCCA Director Lawrence Reifurth. "Educated consumers can better protect themselves from becoming victims of scam artists."

"In this competition, students learn about life skills," said DCCA Education Specialist Jacqueline Choy. "With knowledge about the practical areas of life, students are armed with the tools to becoming smarter consumers,"

The members of the winning team are: Chelsea Craven, Mariel Mogote, Angelica Tangalin, Camille Thomas and Tammy Wong. The team was coached by Serena Fujikawa and James Franks. The team will go on to represent Hawaii at the national competition in Minneapolis, Minnesota, April 12-15, 2008. A total of 26 schools participated in this year's competition.

The LifeSmarts program is run by the National Consumers League and is sponsored in Hawaii by DCCA, the Hawai'i Credit Union League (HCUL) and the Better Business Bureau Foundation (BBBF).

More information about the State LifeSmarts competition may be found at http://www.hawaii.gov/dcca/quicklinks/life_smarts/, or by calling DCCA Education Specialist Jacqueline Choy at 586-2760.

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